

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RESTORING AMERICANS' HEALTHCARE FREEDOM RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM COLE

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 2016

Mr. COLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to share my strong support for the Senate Amendment to H.R. 3762, the Restoring Americans' Healthcare Freedom Reconciliation Act of 2015. Mr. Speaker, this legislation caps a long march by House Republicans to repeal President Obama's job-killing health care legislation, the so-called Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA). But you don't have to just take my word for it. Since its enactment, PPACA has never been popular with a majority of the American people. The Kaiser Family Foundation has maintained a monthly tracking poll of the law's popularity and only once in the last five years was its favorability as high as 50%. House Republicans recognized this and voted over 60 times to repeal or modify provisions of PPACA. Because of this, eighteen different provisions of PPACA have been considered and passed by both the House and the Senate and have been signed into law by the President.

The Senate Amendment to H.R. 3762 does three important things: it repeals the individual mandate, eliminates the employer mandates, eliminates the taxes on prescription drugs and medical devices, and it places a moratorium on taxpayer funding to abortion providers. These provisions are estimated to repeal more than \$1.2 trillion in tax hikes on hardworking families, and reduces spending by nearly \$1.5 trillion, over the next 10 years. As a member of the Budget Committee, I am proud to have played a role in shaping this reconciliation bill to repeal a law that a majority of Americans have never wanted, a law that has taken away coverage that people liked and replaced it with inferior coverage which costs even more.

In addition to this, Mr. Speaker, the Senate Amendment to H.R. 3762 includes a moratorium on taxpayer funding to abortion providers, like Planned Parenthood, and redirects those funds to community health centers. Like you, Mr. Speaker, I am opposed to abortion and have been a consistent proponent of laws and policies that respect life and protect the unborn. I am pleased this legislation provides for a moratorium of funding to Planned Parenthood.

Broadly, I do not believe that taxpayers should fund Planned Parenthood. I am a cosponsor of H.R. 217, the Title X Abortion Provider Prohibition Act, which would prohibit family planning assistance to an entity unless it certifies that it will not provide funds to another entity that performs abortions except in the cases of rape, incest, or the life of the mother. I have also cosponsored H.R. 3134, the Defund Planned Parenthood Act of 2015, which would prevent any funds from going to

Planned Parenthood until it is certified that they do not perform abortions and supported this legislation when it passed the House, by a vote of 241–187, on September 18, 2015. In addition, I voted in favor of H.R. 3495, the Women's Public Health and Safety Act, which gives states the flexibility to exclude abortion providers, like Planned Parenthood, from their Medicaid programs. I do not believe it is appropriate to use public funds to pay for abortions and am pleased to see this further limitation as a part of the Senate Amendment to H.R. 3762.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, I want to take a few moments to respond to some of my colleagues' remarks that seemed to imply that funding for Planned Parenthood was included in the omnibus. Approximately 90 percent of Planned Parenthood's federal funding comes from Medicaid reimbursements, which is mandatory or entitlement spending, and not included in the omnibus at all. The other 10 percent of Planned Parenthood's federal money comes primarily from the Title X Family Planning Program in the form of competitive grants. This amounts to around \$60 million in any given year that Planned Parenthood must compete for. Obviously, with this Administration, it seems likely that Planned Parenthood will receive funds; however, electing a pro-life President who will also select like-minded appointees and cabinet members is the long-term solution. Ultimately, even with a government shutdown, Planned Parenthood would still receive the vast amount of the funding it currently receives.

As the Chairman of the Appropriations subcommittee responsible for funding the Department of Health and Human Services, I removed all funding for Title X programs that fund organizations conducting abortions, such as Planned Parenthood as part of the House version of this legislation. Unfortunately, we were not able to maintain that funding prohibition or the Abortion Non-Discrimination Act in the final version of the bill. For some to suggest, as they have, that more could have been done to stop this horrifying practice in the omnibus, is simply untrue.

I am opposed to abortion and have been a consistent proponent of laws and policies that respect life and protect the unborn. Since becoming a Member of Congress, I have made protection of life one of my highest priorities. As stewards of the laws of this country, protecting the most vulnerable, including the unborn, should be one of Congress' highest priorities. I have a 100 percent pro-life voting record and intend to continue building on that record.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, this legislation demonstrates what the American people have known for a long time: that Obamacare is deeply unpopular in both Washington and back at home. Forcing the President to veto this legislation demonstrates that the support is here in Washington for a full repeal. If a Republican President would be elected in 2016, I am sure this albatross around the neck of the American people would be no more.

I encourage all of my colleagues to listen to the voices of the American people and vote yes on repeal of Obamacare and a temporary moratorium on federal funding for Planned Parenthood.

SUNSHINE FOR REGULATORY DECREES AND SETTLEMENTS ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 7, 2016

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 712) to impose certain limitations on consent decrees and settlement agreements by agencies that require the agencies to take regulatory action in accordance with the terms thereof, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, today I rise in opposition to The Sunshine for Regulatory Decrees and Settlements Act of 2015.

In our first legislative week of 2016 the Republican agenda is clear—continue to erode the rights of Americans. Despite its sunny title, this bill does nothing more than make it more difficult for agencies to implement environmental, public health and consumer regulations. This bill helps big corporations that do not want to comply with agency promulgations at the expense and health of the American people.

It is for this reason Mr. Speaker that I must vote no.

FAIRNESS IN CLASS ACTION LITIGATION ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, January 8, 2016

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1927) to amend title 28, United States Code, to improve fairness in class action litigation.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I rise to express my opposition to the Fairness in Class Action Litigation Act of 2015.

On Monday of this week, the Justice Department filed a civil complaint against Volkswagen after discovering that Volkswagen manipulated over half a million diesel engines to circumvent our environmental standards. By the end of the week Republicans brought legislation to the floor that will make it exceedingly difficult for consumers harmed by deliberately deceitful corporations to file class action lawsuits. The problem that Republicans are pretending to solve with this bill does not exist, but the consequences of this bill are

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

very real. If this bill passes it will limit the ability of consumers to have access to courts and prevent them from holding companies accountable.

We have spent this week on policies that deprive Americans of their health care, deprive women of safe and secure healthcare, and protect corporations instead of protecting American citizens. If this week is a harbinger of the legislative agenda that Republicans have for 2016 then the people's House will fail to do the people's business.

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO
SUFFER FROM GLIOBLASTOMA

HON. THOMAS MacARTHUR

OF NEW JERSEY
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mr. MACARTHUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to the scourge of glioblastoma.

The glial cells are the glue of the brain. Glial tumors, which attack and destroy this glue, account for over eighty percent of all malignant brain tumors. Glioblastomas are both the most frequent and the most aggressive kind of glial tumor. Put simply, glioblastoma is the most malignant form of brain cancer known to medical science.

The suffering caused by glioblastoma is hard to overstate. As the glue of the brain breaks down, glioblastoma causes great difficulties for patients and their loved ones. Life expectancy after diagnosis is about three months without treatment, and even with treatment, typical life expectancy is between one and two years. The five-year survival rate for patients receiving treatment is less than ten percent.

Despite these enormous odds, many patients and their families continue to fight bravely and advocate for a cure. I would like to join them in that cause. The National Institutes of Health recently received a major funding increase, and I urge them, along with other centers of medical research, to take seriously the enormous importance of finding new and better treatments for glioblastoma, which represents such a challenge for so many Americans and their families.

I also want to recognize in particular Mr. Joseph J. Rullo, a constituent of mine from Beachwood, New Jersey, who passed away after his battle with this terrible disease. His son, Joe, is an active voice in the fight to combat glioblastoma, and I thank him—and all glioblastoma advocates—for their dedication to the hard work of advocacy on behalf of those who suffer from glioblastoma and their families. It's my honor to represent them in Congress as they continue fighting the good fight.

TRIBUTE TO MIKE GIBSON

HON. SCOTT R. TIPTON

OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mr. TIPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Mr. Mike Gibson. Mr. Gibson served as the manager of the San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District, and recently retired after

serving 14 years to the area. He is a standout citizen, demonstrated by his hard work and dedication to his former job, and was recently named Water Manager of the Year by the Colorado Division of Water Resources, Division 3 of the Rio Grande Basin. This is the second time he received this award in seven years. Mr. Gibson's ability to effectively manage water reinforces his commitment to excellent service to the people of Southern Colorado.

The Colorado Division of Water presents this award to a person involved in water management within the Rio Grande Basin who has shown outstanding effort in the management of their water, and demonstrated leadership in the larger water issues facing the basin. Water is a scarce resource in Colorado and the effective management of it is a top priority. Mr. Gibson has consistently demonstrated his ability to manage water and, as a result, has earned multiple Manager of the Year awards, respect from his colleagues, and the gratitude of the Southern Colorado communities which he serves.

Mr. Gibson's passion for water related issues was reflected not only by his work at the San Luis Valley Water Conservation District, but also by his leadership on other organizations, including the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable, Rio Grande Natural Area Commission, and his past duties as president of the Colorado Water Congress. His willingness to collaborate and volunteer speaks to his dedication not only to protecting the basin's water resources but to educating its citizens as well.

Mr. Speaker, Mike Gibson truly deserves the admiration he has received from the Colorado water community over the years. His services were immensely important for the communities in the San Luis Valley, and he is among the very best of the water managers in the Third Congressional District of Colorado. Mr. Gibson's work has been invaluable over the last several years. I applaud him for his outstanding accolades and his successful career, and I wish him well in his retirement.

HONORING THE LIFE OF PAT A.
GENTILE

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Pat A. Gentile, 87, who passed away on Friday January 1, 2016. Pat was born on February 2, 1928 in Belltown, Pennsylvania, a son of Antonio and Liberta DelSignore Gentile.

Pat attended Struthers High School and graduated from the New Castle School of Trades. Pat enlisted in the U.S. Navy and was in the Sea Bee Division, from where he was honorably discharged in 1948.

Pat worked in the steel mills and Kaiser Refractories and then became a self-employed carpenter for 50 years. One of his greatest accomplishments was the building of his children's homes. He was known as a jokester and loved to play tricks on the kids. Pat was an avid outdoorsman and enjoyed hunting and fishing. He loved spending time with his children and grandchildren, especially at his cabin in the Allegheny National Forest. He loved ani-

mals and music, especially his accordion. Pat was a member of the Christ Our Savior/St. Nicholas Church in Struthers.

Pat will be deeply missed by his family. He leaves behind his wife, Marian "Honey" Caggiano, whom he married on April 17, 1948, at St. Lucy's Church in Campbell. They raised four children, Patrick (Denise) Gentile of New Middletown, Michael (Lori) Gentile of Poland, Carole "Mimi" (Pat) Patterson of Fresno, Calif., and Laraine (Gary) Solvesky of Poland. He leaves one brother, Joseph P. (Eleanor) Gentile of Struthers; 12 grandchildren; and 31 great-grandchildren, with one on the way; and many nieces, nephews and cousins, all of whom adored him.

Pat was preceded in death by six brothers, Nick, Chris, Fred, Sam, William, and Dominic Gentile; five sisters, Emma Genova, Amelia Quatro, Mary Quattro, Anne Spano, and Anne Gentile; one great-grandson, Dylan Solvesky; and one daughter-in-law, Rochelle Hudock Gentile.

Losses like these are never easy, but we can all take solace in the fact that Pat led a long and fulfilling life. He will live on in the memory of his beautiful family.

HONORING THE LIFE OF
ROOSEVELT D. ALLEN, JR.

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with deep sadness and the utmost respect that I take this time to remember a dear friend and one of Indiana's most distinguished citizens, Roosevelt D. Allen, Jr., Lake County Commissioner. On Saturday, January 9, 2016, Roosevelt Allen passed away at the age of 68. Commissioner Allen devoted his life to serving the people of Northwest Indiana, and he will be greatly missed by his family, friends, coworkers, and the many grateful constituents throughout the community whose lives he touched.

In 1965, Roosevelt Allen graduated from Roosevelt High School in Gary, Indiana, before continuing his studies at Howard University. From there, he graduated magna cum laude from Indiana University, receiving a bachelor's degree in accounting, before completing graduate classes at DePaul University. Roosevelt went on to become a successful and admired funeral director for the family business, Guy & Allen Funeral Directors, Inc., in Gary, which has served the community for eighty years.

Public service was a way of life for Commissioner Allen. He served the community of Northwest Indiana because he wanted to make a difference, and he did so with passion and enthusiasm. Roosevelt served on the Calumet Township Advisory Board for twenty-seven years. In 2006, he was elected to serve as Lake County Commissioner for the first district. Commissioner Allen was in his third term, and was serving as President of the Board of Commissioners, at the time of his passing. Fellow officials remember him as a true gentleman, a mentor to all, and an exemplary government leader. During his time in office, Roosevelt also served as the commissioners' representative on the Northwestern Indiana

Regional Planning Commission and was chairman of the Lake County Public Safety Communications Commission. Throughout his lifetime, Commissioner Allen also served in many capacities for numerous organizations. He was a life member of the NAACP, member of the Lake County Democratic Organization, a board member of Edgewater Systems for Balanced Living, and a board member of the Regional Bus Authority, among others. A faithful man, Roosevelt was a devout member of Saint Timothy Community Church in Gary, Indiana.

Roosevelt Allen is survived by his beloved daughters: Lisa, LaTrice, and Olivia. He also leaves to cherish his memory seven beautiful grandchildren, many dear friends and family members, and a saddened but indebted community.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in paying tribute to my dear friend, and a true public servant, Roosevelt Allen. For his tremendous contributions to the people of Northwest Indiana, his lifetime of service is worthy of the highest praise. Roosevelt's selfless and lifelong commitment to the people of his community will be forever remembered, and his legacy serves as an inspiration to us all.

HONORING MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT CORPORAL HERSHEL "WOODY" WILLIAMS

HON. EVAN H. JENKINS

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Corporal Hershel "Woody" Williams, a lifelong West Virginian. When the freedom of the United States and the world was in peril during the Second World War, he gallantly heard the call to defend our nation and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps in 1943. After finishing his training in California, Cpl. Williams was stationed in the Pacific Theater and bravely fought in the Battle of Guam in 1944.

What truly distinguishes Cpl. Williams is the exceptional bravery he demonstrated during the battle of Iwo Jima. When tanks became ineffective on the beaches, he fought his way to destroy seven Japanese pillboxes while covered only by four riflemen. His bravery in taking out the pillboxes in the battle of Iwo Jima was a determining factor in turning the tide of the battle in favor of the Americans.

Cpl. Hershel "Woody" Williams was awarded the Medal of Honor by President Truman in 1945. The Medal of Honor was "For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as demolition sergeant serving with the 21st Marines, 3d Marine Division, in action against enemy Japanese forces on Iwo Jima, Volcano Islands, 23 February 1945." Cpl. Williams is the last living Medal of Honor recipient from the Battle of Iwo Jima.

Known by all as Woody, he had a distinguished career in the military and has spent his life tirelessly helping veterans and their families. His service to America and West Virginia is unparalleled. I have known Woody for decades and am proud to call him not only a constituent but a friend. On January 14, 2016,

Woody Williams receives another honor: a ship in the United States Navy will bear his name. I congratulate and commend Cpl. Williams on a remarkable and admirable life. Woody Williams serves as a pillar for all Americans to aspire to, a brave man who put his fellow Americans before himself.

HONORING JOHN A. DILLINGHAM

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I pause to honor a constituent of Missouri's 6th Congressional District and someone I am especially proud to call my friend, John A. Dillingham, upon being awarded as the 2015 Northlander of the Year by the Northland Regional Chamber of Commerce.

John Dillingham grew up with a strong 6th generation Missouri heritage in Clay and Platte County, Missouri, with an education from Wentworth Military Academy, Smithville High School, and my alma mater, the University of Missouri. John also enlisted in the U.S. Army and served with distinction in Korea as a 2nd Lt. in the Lacrosse Guided Missile Battalion of the U.S. Army, was the 2nd Lt. Aide-de-camp, Division Artillery Commander of the 1st Infantry Division, and was presented with the Army Commendation Medal for his service.

Corporately, John has been a Vice President of Loans for Traders Bank of Kansas City, Senior Vice President of Garney Companies for 16 years, President of Dillingham Enterprises and has served as an Independent Trustee of Waddell & Reed.

John is so widely respected throughout Missouri that he has served Republican and Democrat Governors, Senators, Congressmen and Mayors in positions such as the Kansas City Board of Police Commission, the University of Missouri of Extension Advisory Board, the Kansas City Agribusiness Council, Children's Mercy Hospital, and was a Charter Board Member of the Clay County Veteran's Memorial built in a park named after his good friend, Anita Gorman. He has also served as an Honorary Director of the Heart of America Council of the Boy Scouts of America, the Freedoms Frontier National Heritage Area Chairman and the Governance Chairman of Harry S. Truman Library Institute, as well as serving on the Kansas City Crime Commission and the National World War I Museum National Advisory Board.

John has also been honored as a member of the Missouri Academy of Squires, an Outstanding Kansas Citizen by the Kansas City Native Sons & Daughters, an Outstanding Missourian by the Missouri State Legislature, the Silver Good Citizens Medal by the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, an Honorary Director for Life of the American Royal, the Meritorious Service Award from the Kansas City, Missouri, Police Department, as a Sachem in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, the Silver Wreath Award from the National Eagle Scouts' Association, and the Silver Beaver Award from the Boy Scouts of America.

Mr. Speaker, I could list at least 50 more organizations that John has guided and worked

with over his very distinguished lifetime. However, I ask that you join me, John's wife Nancy, their sons, Bill and Allen, their families and the entire Northland community in congratulating John A. Dillingham on this accomplishment wishing him God's blessings in the years to come.

RECOGNIZING MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY'S UNDERGROUND RAILROAD MOVEMENT

HON. DAVID A. TROTT

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mr. TROTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Michigan State University's commitment to racial equality in our country through their integration efforts for sports programs in the 1960s.

In light of the College Football National Championship game last night, I want to take the time to remember another National Title game 50 years ago. In 1966, segregation was widespread in our country. It was a time of great struggle and injustice for African Americans. Michigan State football, however, became a bastion for integration and equality. University President John Hannah and Head Coach Duffy Daugherty had a long history of providing academic and athletic opportunity to African Americans who were denied access in their home states. Daugherty spearheaded a recruitment network throughout southern states that became known as the Underground Railroad Movement. He sought out black players who were not allowed to play in their own states due to their race. His efforts culminated with the 1966 team, which included 20 black players, 11 starters, and was led by one of the only black quarterbacks among major colleges at the time, Jimmy Raye. Raye led the Spartans to win the National Title in 1966, which was a victory for MSU, and a victory for equality across America.

The leadership shown by Michigan State University and the courage of the players marked an important advancement for society. Their actions proved a catalyst for other teams to expand their recruiting profiles, and Americans to expand their perspective. The barriers that were broken in Michigan State's programs marked an important step toward full integration of collegiate sports in 1972. On this 50th anniversary of their National Title win, I commend Michigan State University for their legacy of providing opportunity for all Americans, regardless of race.

A BILL TO COMPREHENSIVELY ADDRESS COMPACT IMPACT IN AFFECTED JURISDICTIONS

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce legislation that will help address the impact of the Compacts of Free Association on affected jurisdictions like Guam and Hawaii. I continue to support the intent of the Compacts, and I understand the benefits these

agreements have for our nation and our security. However, the costs borne by our local governments for providing social services to Compact migrants are unsustainable, and Congress must act to provide relief for affected jurisdictions who have spent millions of local funds to support the Compacts and migrants. COFA migrants make positive contributions to our communities, but insufficient support from the federal government causes a significant socioeconomic strain on our island communities.

This strain only increases, especially in the face of uncertain economic conditions in the Freely Associated States as well as the impact climate change is having on Pacific island nations. The bill I am introducing, as well as proposals that I have made in the past, will provide relief and empower local jurisdictions with solutions to reduce the burden of Compacts.

The best solution to Compact impact would be an increase in annual mandatory funding from the current \$30 million, divided among each of the affected jurisdictions, to the \$185 million recommended by the GAO. However, the current budget environment makes appropriating this difficult. Nonetheless I am proud to be a cosponsor of a bill introduced by Congressman TAKAI of Hawaii that would increase this annual appropriation, and I hope that we can at least have a debate on this measure.

However, as we work to find long-term solutions to Compact-impact, I believe that there are important fixes we can make that will provide much needed relief to our local governments without significant costs to taxpayers. The ideas that I incorporate into this bill are based on ways to reduce the burden with the in-kind contributions that our local governments have provided to support COFA migrants. This approach is a more budget-friendly way to address this daunting policy challenge. The bill's provisions address four areas where we can reduce the burden.

Firstly, my bill would permit the affected jurisdictions to use the cumulative amount that they have spent to provide social services to COFA migrants, towards the non-federal portion of providing Medicaid to their local residents. The bill proposes a new formula that would increase the Federal Medical Assistance Percentage for each of the affected jurisdictions. This would go a long way towards alleviating the burden on affected jurisdictions by increasing the percentage assistance provided by the federal government for Medicaid.

Secondly, the bill would categorize elementary and secondary education-aged COFA students as federally connected students and make them eligible for Impact Aid. I understand the fiscal challenges that the Impact Aid community faces, and I am committed to working with them to address the effect this bill may have on them. The bill attempts to offset this effect by increasing funding authorization and ensures that we are not taking from one group to pay for another.

Thirdly, this legislation would clarify Congress's intent when we extended eligibility for housing assistance programs to COFA migrants. This bill ensures that U.S. citizens, nationals, or lawful permanent residents are not displaced when applying for housing benefits and that they are given priority when applying for these benefits.

Lastly, this bill would commission independent research on the viability of the current Compacts, and make recommendations on

policy alternatives moving forward. I hope this research will provide strategic guidance as we move towards renewal of the Compacts in 2023 and ensure that we are administering these agreements in the best way moving forward.

I am pleased to count my colleague Mr. TAKAI from Hawaii as an original cosponsor. As this Congress discusses solutions for the crisis in Puerto Rico, it is important that we also discuss challenges that the other territories face, especially the challenge of supporting the Compacts of Free Association. While the challenges facing affected jurisdictions are nowhere near as serious as Puerto Rico, doing nothing would only welcome economic and security challenges down the road. I look forward to this bill becoming law and being a tremendous help to jurisdictions affected by Compact impact.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN C. CARNEY, JR.

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mr. CARNEY. Mr. Speaker, I wish to clarify that on January 11, 2016 I was unable to vote on roll call votes 34 and 35 because I was attending to congressional business in my district.

On Roll Call Vote Number 34, on passage of H.R. 598, I did not vote. It was my intention to vote "Aye."

On Roll Call Vote Number 35, on passage of H.R. 3231, I did not vote. It was my intention to vote "Aye."

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,888,640,000,429.69. We've added \$8,261,762,951,516.61 to our debt in 7 years. This is over \$8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING STAFF SERGEANT JOSEPH LEMM

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the service and sacrifice of my constituent, New York Police Department (NYPD) Detective and Staff Sergeant Joseph Lemm of West Harrison. A 15-year veteran of the NYPD and member of the Air National Guard, Staff Sergeant Lemm was killed alongside five other Americans in Afghanistan on December 21, 2015.

Staff Sergeant Lemm was a true patriot who dedicated his life to protecting others. To quote New York City Police Commissioner William Bratton, "he chose selflessness; he chose sacrifice; he chose to serve."

Staff Sergeant Lemm is survived by his wife, Christine, and two children, Brooke and Ryan. Tonight, Christine will accompany me to President Obama's final State of the Union Address. I urge my colleagues to honor her sacrifice and remember that each service member who loses his or her life leaves behind a circle of loved ones to whom we are also indebted.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Staff Sergeant Lemm's exceptional service to our country. We offer his family, friends, and community our heartfelt sympathy and will work to ensure that the loss of Staff Sergeant Lemm will serve as a reminder of the heroic sacrifices of our service members. I offer my deepest condolences to Christine, Brooke and Ryan on the passing of their husband and father, and I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Staff Sergeant Lemm's service and sacrifice.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GARRET GRAVES

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana. Mr. Speaker, on roll call nos. 34–35, my absence was attributable to numerous parish, legislative and state-wide inauguration ceremonies in Louisiana. In addition, I met with emergency response officials related to flood waters in the Atchafalaya River system. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:

On Roll Call Number 34: H.R. 598, Taxpayer Right to Know Act—yea.

On Roll Call Number 35: H.R. 3231, Federal Intern Protection Act of 2015—yea.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I was not able to be present for the following Roll Call votes on January 11, 2016 and would like to reflect that I would have voted as follows:

Roll Call Number 34: YES

Roll Call Number 35: YES

TRIBUTE TO KATHY A. HOLTZMAN

HON. KEITH J. ROTHFUS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate from time to time we take the opportunity to recognize contributions that everyday citizens have made to our community and our nation. It is in that spirit that today we remember Kathy A. Holtzman of Richland Township, Cambria County, Pennsylvania.

Kathy served her community, her church, and her family with dedication and joy. When

she died at age 75 on December 6, 2015, she was survived by her husband, Robert, her daughter, Brenda, her grandchildren, Devin and Lea, her sister, Margery, and numerous nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her son, Brian.

Mrs. Holtzman was a devoted member of her parish, St. Benedict Catholic Church in Geistown, where she served as an usher.

A model citizen and public servant, she served as a Cambria County Commissioner for twelve years, four of those years as President Commissioner.

Before serving in this capacity, she fulfilled a variety of other important roles in her community: Co-Founder, along with Bill Stewart, of Penn Highlands Community College; Richland Township School Director; Republican State Committee Women; President of Cambria County Senior Citizens and Turner Apartments in Ebensburg; board member of the Salvation Army, Peniel Drug and Alcohol Program, and Johnstown Sportsmen's Club; and member of the Geistown-Richland Lions Club.

Mrs. Holtzman's family can be very proud of her legacy in the community where she without a doubt left a positive, lasting impact. Likewise, the citizens of Cambria County will continue to reap the benefits of Kathy's community engagements for years to come. Kathy Holtzman's life was a well-lived one in the service of others. It is an honor to recognize her today.

A TRIBUTE TO ROGER MAXWELL

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Roger Maxwell. Roger has been chosen for induction into the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) School of Music "Jazz Hall of Fame". He will be inducted on April 8, 2016 in Cedar Falls, Iowa.

Roger was a graduate of the Iowa State Teachers' College, now known as the University of Northern Iowa. His years as an advocate for music and higher education, his talents as a composer of music educational materials, and his hard work as a founding member of the jazz program at UNI are all examples of his dedication to the art of music. It is a great honor to be chosen as a member of the "Jazz Hall of Fame" at UNI.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Roger for this award and for sharing his musical talents and knowledge. I am proud to represent him in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Roger and wishing him nothing but continue success.

SIX-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF HAITI EARTHQUAKE

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, every year on January 12th we pause to remember the devastating earthquake that struck Haiti in 2010

and the 200,000 Haitians' lives claimed by the disaster. The United States has stood firmly with the people of Haiti as they have endeavored to recover and rebuild.

As the Ranking Member of the State and Foreign Operations Appropriations Subcommittee, I remain deeply committed to the close relationship between our two countries and to economic development, democratic governance, and the promotion of human rights on the island.

For these objectives to be achieved, the people of Haiti must have their voices heard through free, fair, and transparent elections. The current political impasse serves no one. Haiti's leaders and its people must work together to complete the electoral process and ensure a peaceful transfer of power next month.

I am proud to represent many Haitian Americans in Rockland and Westchester Counties, and I will continue to work with my constituents on our shared goals of democracy, prosperity, and success for the Haitian people.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GREGG HARPER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, on January 8, 2016, I was detained in my district attending a memorial service for Loyd Lewis Matthews who was killed while on active duty with the Air Force in 1952. His remains were only recently discovered.

On roll call numbers 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 and 32, had I been present, I would have voted NO. On roll call number 33, I would have voted YES.

IN HONOR OF NICHOLAS A. TOUMPAS, COMMISSIONER OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Ms. KUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the significant contributions Nicholas A. Toumpas has made to the State of New Hampshire during his tenure as the Commissioner of the Department of Health and Human Services.

The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services is the states' largest department, and, as the agency responsible for many of the States' vulnerable citizens, one of its most important. During Nick's time as the commissioner, the Department faced many challenges, from shrinking budgets to growing demand for the Department's services. In true Granite State fashion, he saw these challenges as opportunities and tackled them straight on. Nick played a leading role in the implementation of Medicaid expansion, helping to increase access to health insurance for thousands of Granite Staters. New Hampshire is a healthier state because of Nick's time as commissioner.

Commissioner Toumpas' commitment to the Granite State has made it a better place for all of its residents. As one of New Hampshire's representatives in Congress, I am honored to commend him for his distinguished service, and wish him the best of luck in the next chapter of his life.

RECOGNIZING MR. GABRIEL CAMARILLO

HON. BETO O'ROURKE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mr. Gabriel "Gabe" Camarillo, as he transitions to a new role as the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs. In his new role, Mr. Camarillo will be responsible for a four-division department that develops policy and provides oversight of manpower, military and civilian personnel, Reserve component affairs, and readiness support for the Department of the Air Force.

Mr. Camarillo has served in the office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology) since 2010, as a Special Assistant to the Honorable Heidi Shyu, and later as her Principal Deputy. In this role, he has been responsible for assisting the Assistant Secretary in overseeing the Army's 5,000-person acquisition workforce, managing over 600 Army programs, and overseeing contracts in excess of \$125 billion.

In addition to working for Assistant Secretary Shyu, Mr. Camarillo is also an adjunct professor at Georgetown University's Public Policy Institute where his classes focus on political participation.

Mr. Camarillo is a proud native of El Paso, Texas' Vista Hills neighborhood on El Paso's East side. He attended J.M. Hanks High School, where he was a debate champion.

As Mr. Camarillo transitions to his new role with the Department of the Air Force, I know that he will provide our nation's Airmen with the same quality support that he has provided to our Soldiers for the last six years. I am thankful for the service of this effective and capable leader and wish him the best of luck during his upcoming transition and in all future endeavors.

HONORING MR. TOM DEBLASS

HON. THOMAS MacARTHUR

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mr. MACARTHUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Tom DeBlass of New Jersey's Third Congressional District, and to express my sincerest commendation as to all of his accomplishments.

Mr. DeBlass has been named to the New Jersey Martial Arts Hall of Fame as a Grappler. He has won titles such as the Pan American and World Championships. Beyond his personal feats on the mat, Mr. DeBlass has devoted his time to giving back to his community by opening his own Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu Academy.

Mr. DeBlass has used his expertise to produce his own world champion students. He has created a legacy of martial arts success in his community and has given young athletes the opportunity to develop and excel.

Mr. Speaker, the people of New Jersey's Third Congressional District are tremendously proud to have Mr. Tom DeBlass as an involved member of their community. It is my honor to recognize both his personal athletic accomplishments and his lasting contributions to our community before the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING MAJOR GENERAL
JAMES MONTGOMERY BREEDLOVE

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and sacrifice of Major General James Montgomery Breedlove, who passed away on January 9, 2016 in Lubbock, Texas at the age of 93.

General Breedlove was a true American hero who dedicated his life to serving our nation. Upon graduating from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., General Breedlove attended pilot training at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas. After completing pilot training in 1948, General Breedlove married his wife Mary Ann Gossett.

General Breedlove's service in the Air Force took him all across the United States, as well as to England, Germany, Korea, Thailand, and the Canal Zone.

In 1951, during the Korean War, General Breedlove flew 39 combat missions and served with the 601st Aircraft Control and Warning Squadron at Kimp'o as a controller. General Breedlove went on to graduate from the Imperial Defence College in London, and in 1969, assumed command of the 388th Tactical Fighter Wing at Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base—flying 162 combat missions.

In 1970, General Breedlove assumed command of the 3500th Pilot Training Wing at Reese Air Force Base in Lubbock, Texas. He was promoted to Major General on May 1, 1973 and assumed command of the U.S. Air Forces Southern Command in the Canal Zone in 1974. In 1976, when the Tactical Air Command assumed responsibility for USAFSO, he was appointed commander, U.S. Air Force Southern Air Division of the Tactical Air Command and deputy commander in chief, U.S. Southern Command.

General Breedlove's military decorations and awards include the Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star Medal, Air Medal with nine oak leaf clusters, Air Force Commendation Medal with oak leaf cluster, Distinguished Unit Citation Emblem, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award Ribbon with oak leaf cluster, Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation Ribbon, and the Royal Thai Supreme Command Forward Master Badge.

General Breedlove leaves behind a proud and distinguished legacy of military service. His life's work has made America a safer and stronger nation for generations to come. I ask all of my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in honoring and remembering the life of this American patriot.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
PERNER FAMILY

HON. WILL HURD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mr. HURD of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Melissa Williams Perner and Paul Christian Perner IV of Ozona, Texas on the birth of their first-born son, Paul Christian Perner V. He was born on Thursday, December 24th, 2015, at 10:47 PM Central Time, just in time to give his parents the best Christmas present they could ever ask for. He was born at the San Angelo Community Medical Center, weighing 7 pounds, 2 ounces and was 20 inches long. His proud grandparents include Ginger and Paul Christian Perner III and Allen and Susan Williams, who also live in Ozona. This new addition to the Perner family is sure to be a blessing to the entire Ozona, Texas community. On behalf of the 23rd Congressional District of Texas, congratulations to Melissa and Paul Perner.

HONORING BARBARA A. BENNETT
ON HER RETIREMENT FROM
FEDERAL SERVICE AFTER 45
YEARS

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a tireless civil servant and a true American patriot, Ms. Barbara A. Bennett of Virginia.

Barbara retired on December 31, 2015, after 45 years of Federal service. Most recently, Barbara served as Director of the Office of Legislative Affairs at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). Those of us who had the opportunity to work with her during her long career witnessed first-hand Barbara's vast knowledge of foreign affairs and international development, her understanding of the detailed legislative processes, her unparalleled passion for the institution of Congress, and her singular dedication to the mission of USAID in uplifting those around the world from extreme poverty.

Arriving at USAID as a recent graduate of the College of Mary Washington in the fall of 1970, Barbara steadily rose through the ranks during her first 15 years at USAID while working on procurement, financial management, and management support in the Office of the Deputy Administrator.

In 1985, Barbara came to Capitol Hill to work for my former colleague David Obey (D-WI) during his tenure as Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on State-Foreign Operations. In 1988, Barbara returned to USAID and joined the Bureau for Legislative Affairs, where she served for 27 years prior to her retirement as Office Director.

Barbara has left an indelible impression on both the programmatic and management realms of USAID as well as the broader foreign affairs interagency collaborative process. Barbara's hard work is evident in the Agency's adoption of innovative approaches to develop-

ment financing, increased global health investments, efforts to combat international tuberculosis, implementation of the President's Malaria Initiative, and the establishment of an HIV/AIDS Working Capital Fund. These are just some of the higher-profile issues to which Ms. Bennett contributed considerable experience and expertise.

Barbara's efforts have not only benefited recipients of USAID's investments abroad, but generations of our Nation's international development leaders have profited from her guidance and mentorship.

I urge my colleagues to join me in commending Barbara for her service as she pursues new opportunities in this new year.

A TRIBUTE TO VIOLET ANTISDEL

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Violet Antisdel on the celebration of her 102nd birthday. Violet celebrated her birthday on December 24, 2015 in Creston, Iowa.

Our world has changed a great deal during the course of Violet's life. Since her birth, we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television, cellular phones, and the internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism, and witnessed the birth of new democracies. Violet has lived through seventeen United States Presidents and twenty-one Governors of Iowa. In her lifetime, the population of the United States has more than tripled.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Violet in the United States Congress and it is my pleasure to wish her a very happy 102nd birthday. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Violet for reaching this incredible milestone and in wishing her nothing but the best.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY
OF ORLANDO SCIENCE
CENTER

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Orlando Science Center as it celebrates 60 years.

Orlando Science Center has undergone many transformations over the past 60 years. In 1955, the Central Florida Museum, the original namesake of the Orlando Science Center, was officially chartered. The "museum without walls" borrowed spaces in bank lobbies, clubs, and the public library to host exhibits. Interest in the museum grew after the arrival of the Glenn L. Martin Company, now known as Lockheed Martin, sparking the Central Florida community's interest in science and technology.

On July 2, 1960, the museum opened the first planetarium in Florida. The planetarium

was a technological feat in its day; NASA astronauts used it for briefings. On March 23, 1970, the museum displayed a moon rock brought back by the crew of Apollo 11. The rock drew over 4,200 visitors making it the museum's largest single-day attendance to-date. Over the past 60 years, Orlando Science Center has achieved significant growth and continues to inspire learning.

Today, Orlando Science Center hosts workshops to engage students in the Central Florida community. In partnership with Orlando Utilities Commission, Project AWESOME hosts STEM workshops for fifth grade students in Central Florida. The in-classroom workshops, focusing on renewable resources and water conservation, immerse students in real-life scenarios. Since 2010, Project AWESOME has reached 48,779 fifth graders. Sponsored by Siemens, Universal Studios, Bright House Networks and Northrop Grumman, Destination STEM is an 18-week program for middle school students focusing on STEM disciplines and career paths. The Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA!), a year-long program for middle and high school students, teaches them the tools and skills needed to start and manage their own business. In partnership with Orlando, Inc., Orlando Science Center is the first and foremost science center in the nation to facilitate such a program.

On behalf of the people of Central Florida, it is my pleasure to recognize and congratulate Orlando Science Center on this momentous occasion. May their 60 years of dedication to inspire science learning in the classroom and the community inspire many to follow in their footsteps.

RECOGNIZING GENERAL JOHN F. KELLY FOR 45 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE U.S. MARINE CORPS

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 12, 2016

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great American and fearless leader of Marines—General John Kelly, who is retiring this week after 42 years of honorable service to this nation. Few officers can claim General Kelly's long list of accomplishments, but that's just a part of what he's known for. He's also one of the savviest and most proficient officers among a very deep bench of leaders within the American military. And because of his talents and acumen, he's also among the most respected.

I really got to know General Kelly during my first Iraq deployment in 2003. He had a reputation as someone who was willing to get his hands dirty, which isn't always true of many officers at that level. Looking back at that deployment, I am proud and honored to call General Kelly a mentor, and I am especially grateful that I was able to see up-close the value and significance of true leadership.

General Kelly also has a way with words. He can honor or even memorialize Marines in one breath, and then motivate and inspire in the next. In fact, in one of his many inspirational moments, General Kelly eulogized two Marines who died as a result of a suicide vehicle. That speech, now known by the title "Six Seconds to Live," is widely cited by Marines, military leaders and veterans alike, and exists

as a testament to Marine combat ethos and dedication to duty.

General Kelly also experienced an enormous hardship of his own when his son, Marine First Lieutenant Robert Kelly, was killed in action in Sangin, Afghanistan. We know, Mr. Speaker, that there is no greater sacrifice a Marine and his or her family can make—and as a nation, we are forever grateful for such a sacrifice. Some people might have walked away from their military careers at that point, but not General Kelly, whose oldest son is also a Marine. The Kellys are a military family—more importantly, they are Marine Corps family, and service to the nation is in the Kelly bloodline. General Kelly's resolve and courage, during the toughest of times, is a testament to his character, his strength and his commitment to his nation and his family.

Mr. Speaker, the Marine Corps and the entire nation benefited from General Kelly's service and his many contributions, from a commander in Iraq to the head of U.S. Southern Command, where he's closing out his career. He leaves behind him a trail that he blazed over 40-plus years—and I can tell you, Mr. Speaker, there will continue to be many Marines who will aspire to walk down that same path. He would have been a great Marine Corps commandant, and he could have served anywhere and done anything—without limits. But as his Marine Corps career ends, knowing General Kelly, he'll be spending lots of quality time with friends and family—and it's time that's well deserved for his contributions as one of my generation's top military leaders.

To General Kelly, I say *Semper Fi*. Thank you, on behalf of this entire institution and the nation. We are grateful for your service.